

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TREASURY

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USDEL JEC PARIS

INFO USSAGE NKP

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COGARD

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 101240

COGARD FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: APRIL 30 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA

MOST PAPERS HEADLINE TUESDAY'S CHAOTIC FINAL WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICANS FROM SAIGON, GVN SURRENDER TO NVN. MANY NOTE SEVERAL NEWSMEN, MISSIONARIES REFUSED EVACUATION AND CHOSE TO STAY. SOME DO HUMAN-INTEREST STORIES ON LAST 2 MARINES KILLED IN SVN. SEVERAL GIVE CHRONOLOGIES, DO PHOTO UNCLASSIFIED

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FEATURES ON US PRESENCE IN VN. MANY REPORTERS DESCRIBE PANIC IN SAIGON AS AMERICANS FLEE, LOOTING OF US FACILITIES INCLUDING EMBASSY, OTHER DEPARTURE SCENES.

WP'S CANNON/GETLER AND NYT'S HOUGHTON GIVE CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS THAT LED TO EVACUATION DECISION. NYT, WP CARRY TEXT OF PRES' STATEMENT ON ORDERING EVACUATION. FINNEY (NYT), KUMPA (SUN), CARTER (NYDN), NOTE PRES' PLEA FOR UNITY, HAK'S APPEAL AT NEWS CONFERENCE THAT NVN NOT STORM SAIGON BECAUSE GVN READY SURRENDER. PHINQ SAYS PRES' ANNOUNCEMENT CAME 5 HRS AFTER ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED.

NYT CARRIES EXCERPTS FROM HAK 4/29 PRESS BRIEFING; WP CARRIES HIS STATEMENT ON FINAL EVACUATION. WP'S MARDER

REPORTS HAK STATEMENT THAT NVN KEPT ESCALATING ITS DEMANDS, THEN "CHANGED SIGNALS" TO MIL OPTION. NYT'S GWERTZMAN QUOTES SECSTATE THAT NO QUESTION INDOCHINA OUTCOME WILL HAVE CONSEQUENCES IN MANY PARTS OF WORLD. SECDEF SENDS MESSAGE ON ARMED FORCES ROLE IN VN, SAYING INVOLVEMENT "NOT PURPOSELESS" (WP).

SOME CONGRESSIONAL DEMS CRITICIZE EVACUATION AS TOO LATE AND UNNECESSARILY RISKING US LIVES (CHITRIB). WP'S LARDNER FINDS HILL REACTION MUTED. NYDN'S ANDEVIL SAYS CONGRESS RELIEVED, BUT STILL SOME CARPING THAT PRES WAITED TOO LONG ON EVACUATION. SUN'S PEPPER NOTES CONGRESS DROPS EVACUATION BILL AS MOOT ISSUE.

AT LEAST 74 VNAF PLANES LAND THAILAND WITH ABOUT 2000 VIETS WHO REQUEST ASYLUM (ANDELMAN, NYT). PRG'S MRS. BINH SAYS REUNIFICATION OF COUNTRY IS "EARNEST ASPIRATION" OF VIET PEOPLE (AP, WP; UPI, NYDN). COMMUNIST GOVT IN DA NANG RUNS SMOOTHLY ON US LEFTOVERS (AP, CHITRIB). US ASKED EEC INTERCEDE DIPLOMATICALLY IN VN (FOUQUET, WP). MIA FAMILIES ASK FULLER ACCOUNTING, SOME SEEK VISAS VISIT HANOI, PEKING (WP). US MAY NEVER KNOW VN WAR COST, SINCE 138 BILLION DOLS SPENT 1965-73 ONLY PART OF STORY, DOESN'T INCLUDE PAYMENTS TO VETS, INTEREST ON NATL DEBT, OTHER ATTRIBUTABLE COSTS (FRIEDMAN, PHINQ). FORTY DEMONSTRATORS CHEER COMMUNIST VICTORY IN VN IN UNCLASSIFIED

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PARK ACROSS FROM WH (WP). THOUSANDS OF VIETS LEAVE SVN ANY WAY THEY CAN, MAKE WAY TO THAILAND, HK, PHILS, OR SOUTH CHINA SEA (NYDN). GVN COPTERS CRASH ON DECK USN SHIP, BUT REFUGEE PASSENGERS UNHURT (AP, NYT).

US SEEKS HAVEN FOR VIET, KHMER REFUGEES IN OTHER COUNTRIES (TELTSCH, NYT). FIRST VIET REFUGEES ARRIVE AT CAMP PENDLETON. US OFFICIALS SAY OTHER REFUGEES WILL BE TAKEN TO FORT CHAFFEE AND EGLIN AFB (MCKELVEY, PHINQ). CONFUSION MARS ARRIVAL US, VIET REFUGEES IN CALIFORNIA (NORDHEIMER, NYT). CONSTRUCTION OF TEMPORARY QUARTERS FOR VIET REFUGEES AT EGLIN HALTED AFTER MIL AUTHORITIES SAID NOT CERTAIN ANY WOULD ARRIVE (WOOTEN, NYT). SAIGON

REFUGEES ARRIVE NYC EXHAUSTED (CARMODY, NYT). NYT DOES
BACKGROUND ON GUAM COMMANDER ADM MORRISON. REFUGEES
GRATEFUL FOR GUAM AMENITIES (MALCOLM, NYT).

SEN MCGOVERN OPPOSES VIET REFUGEES BEING BROUGHT TO US
BECAUSE THEY WOULD BE "BETTER OFF" IN VN (UPI, NYT).
ANNOUNCEMENT OF 3 MIL BASES TEMPORARILY TO HOUSE VIET
REFUGEES DREW COOL REACTIONS IN STATES INVOLVED; EVACUEES
FACE CHILLY RECEPTION (CHITRIB). FIRST EVACUEES ARRIVED

PENDLETON WEARY, GRUMBLING; MOSTLY AMCITS AND DEPENDENTS
(WINTERS, SUN). REFUGEE WAVE POSES PROBLEMS, WITH OFFICIAL
PLANNING "SHAMBLES" (MEYER, WP). TENTS FOR 20,000 BEING
PUT UP AT PENDLETON (WILSON, NYDN). DESPITE ADMIN EFFORTS,
MANY CRITICIZE REFUGEE EFFORT (VAN RIPER, NYDN).
REFUGEE WELCOME RESOLUTION REJECTED BY SEATTLE CITY
COUNCIL (UPI, WP).

C EXILE SHUTTLE PLANES RETURN TO GUAM WITH FOOD
(UPI, CHITRIB). CHICAGO FATHER BRAVED TRIP TO SAIGON,
RETURNED WITH SON (RANDOLPH, CHITRIB). NYC/SF LAWYERS'
GROUP FILED SUIT ASKING NON-ORPHAN VIET CHILDREN BE
RETURNED TO VN (WSJ). KY'S WIFE, RELATIVES ARRIVE
IN US (FOSBURGH, NYT; UPI, WP). KY, MRS. MARTIN AMONG
FIRST EVACUATED FROM SAIGON BY COPTER (REUTER, NYT).
CONSIDINE (BALTO N-A 4/29) WRITES OF EFFORTS ON BEHALF
OF VIET ORPHANS BY GA'S BETTY TISDALE. CAUSEY (WP)
REPORTS THOUSANDS OF USG WORKERS WILL BE PULLED OFF
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REGULAR JOBS TO HELP VIET REFUGEES. WP'S RAMBO AT
CLARK SAYS SAIGON'S RICH AND INFLUENTIAL ARRIVE AMONG
THOSE WITH "LEGITIMATE GROUNDS" FOR BEING EVACUATED.
NYT'S ROSENBAUM NOTES NEW LEGISLATION PROPOSED IN CONGRESS
TO FINANCE RELOCATION OF VIETS. LAT'S JOHNSTON (4/29)
REPORTS WH SEEKS EXPAND CATEGORIES OF VIETS WHO CAN
SETTLE IN US TO PERMIT EMPLOYEES OF VOLAGS, PRIVATE
COMPANIES, OTHERS TO STAY. CSM'S SCHMIDT/HEY BELIEVE
APPREHENSION, GENEROSITY AWAIT REFUGEES IN US. WSJ'S
PEARLSTINE, WHO MADE REFUGEE FLIGHT TO GUAM, FOUND
MANY DON'T FALL INTO ENDANGERED CATEGORY, FEW REALIZE
HOW DIFFICULT LIFE OUTSIDE VN WILL BE. UPI IN CONN
QUOTES AMCIT WHO WAS EVACUATED FROM SAIGON THAT BRIBE
WAS SOLICITED BY US OFFICIALS TO SPEED UP PROCESSING
OF DEPENDENTS' DEPARTURE (CHITRIB).

NEW CAMBODIAN GOVT SAYS WILL PERMIT EXIT FOREIGN NATIONALS
WHO HAD TAKEN REFUGE IN FRENCH EMBASSY (AP, SUN; WP;
PHINQ; CHITRIB; LEWIS, NYT; NYDN). INTL RED CROSS HAD
MED PERSONNEL IN THAILAND READY MEET EVACUEES (NYT).
UN SECGEN SAYS EVACUATION OF REFUGEES IN FRENCH EMBASSY
PP WILL BEGIN BY BUS (NYT). ELEVEN KHMER MIL MEN IN

TRAINING IN VA WILL CONTINUE SCHOOLING; NONE WANTS
RETURN (AP, PHINQ).

2. JAPAN

JOC (TOKYO) CITES "UNUSUALLY WELL-QUALIFIED" MITI SOURCE,
THAT GOJ CONSIDERING PROPOSE PRG OR SUCCESSOR JAPAN
PLAY ACTIVE PART RESTORING WAR-SHATTERED SVN ECONOMY,

ASSIST INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. CONCEDES PRG, HANOI
HAVE RIGHT BE SUSPICIOUS OF JAPAN FOR GIVING MORE THAN
819 MILLION DOLS REPARATIONS, AID GRANTS AND 727.9
MILLION DOLS IMPORT COMMODITY IMPORT LOANS, INFRASTRUCTURE
FINANCING TO GVN; BUT BELIEVES JAPANESE WILL AGAIN ASSIST
SVN PEOPLE DEVELOP ECONOMY IN NEAR FUTURE, "NOT MATTER OF
YEARS."

KOMATSU PLANS OFFER 50 MILLION DOL 15-YR CONVERTIBLE
DEBENTURES TO US, OTHER OVERSEAS INVESTORS MID-JUNE,
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THROUGH MLPF AND S, NOMURA AND J. HENRY SCHRODER WAGG;
MOODY INVESTOR'S SVC RATES BAA (WSJ - NY).

4. KOREA

KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY REPORTED WEDNESDAY SIHANOUK,
KHIEU SAMPHAN WROTE IN REPLY KIM IL-SUNG CONGRATULATORY
MESSAGE ON KR CAPTURE PP: "WE FIRMLY BELIEVE...THE KOREAN
PEOPLE WILL DEFEAT THE NEO-COLONIALISTS OF THE UNITED
STATES IN KOREA, TOO" (UPI, CHITRIB).

HALLORAN (NYT) IN SEOUL NOTES PARK ASSERTED IN TV ADDRESS
TO NATION TUESDAY SK ARMED FORCES PREPARED REPEL NK
AGGRESSION; VIEWS AS HARDENING OF PARK'S RECENT WARNINGS,
BUT DID NOT GO SO FAR AS DECLARING "STATE OF WAR," AS
RUMORED FOR WEEKS. NOTES CRITICS SUGGEST "WAR-SCARE"
STATEMENTS ADVERSELY AFFECT ECONOMY, FRIGHTEN FOREIGN
INVESTORS.

5. PHILIPPINES

NYT (CLARK AB) SAYS 123 SVIETS LANDED C-118 AT CLARK TUESDAY
WITHOUT GOP CLEARANCE. GOP LIAISON OFFICER SAYS SVAF
SPECIAL AIRCRAFT, NOT AVN AIRLINER AS FIRST BELIEVED.
PASSENGERS TAKEN RESTRICTED EVACUEE QUARTERS, WHERE
INTERVIEWED BY GOP OFFICIALS. GOP SPOKESMAN SAYS CAN
REMAIN 72 HRS.

6. INDONESIA

AFP (JAKARTA) SAYS GOI PLANS FILE 15 MILLION DOL DAMAGE

CLAIM FOR POLLUTION CAUSED BY COLLISION OF JAPANESE
TANKER TOSA-MARU, LIBERIAN TANKER CACTUS QUEEN IN
SINGAPORE STRAITS 12 DAYSAGO (WP).

7. AUSTRALIA

GOA BOWS TO TEACHERS UNION DEMANDS, HALTS ISSUING VISAS
FOR SHORT-TERM TEACHERS, SUSPENDS TEACH-AND-TRAVEL

BENEFITS; MOVE DOES NOT AFFECT TEACHERS IN COUNTRY, OR
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350 AMCITS ARRIVING MAY (AP, PHINQ, CHITRIB, WP).

8. CHINA

NCNA IN LAST DAYS OF VN WAR, BROADCAST PRC MOFA STATEMENT
SUPPORTING PRG, DRV, AND CALLING ON USG "CEASE ITS
INTERVENTION IN SOUTH VIETNAM," RESPECT SVIETS RIGHT
TO SELF-DETERMINATION (AP, PHINQ).

NCNA BROADCASTS MESSAGE CALLING ON SIKKIMESE TO FIGHT
FOR INDEPENDENCE, LABELING SOVIET "BEHIND-THE-SCENES"
BOSS OF INDIAN EXPANSIONISM (AP, PHINQ, WP).

NYT'S TRUMBELL IN OTTAWA NOTES CANADA ORDERS WITHDRAWAL
UNNAMED MEMBER PRC EMBASSY FOR ENGAGING ACTIVITIES
"INCOMPATIBLE WITH HIS STATUS AS A DIPLOMAT." MACEACHEN
DECLINED GIVE DETAILS, BUT SAID NOT INVOLVED "ATTEMPTED
COLLECTION OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION ABOUT CANADA'S
SECURITY." GLOBE AND MAIL TUESDAY IDENTIFIED AS "PRESS
ATTACHE" OF WHOM TRUMBULL NOTES ONLY ONE IN DIPLOMATIC
REGISTER -- THIRD SECY KUO CHING-AN.

JOC (HK) CITES NCNA REPORT PRC INCREASED FIRST QUARTER
COAL PRODUCTION 6 PERCENT OVER SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.
SAYS INDICATES SOLUTION ONE SEVERE ECONOMIC PROBLEM
THAT CONCERNED PRC LAST YEAR WHEN COAL PRODUCTION
LAGGED 8.35 MILLION TONS BEHIND TARGET AFTER FIRST HALF.

JOC'S STRAUSS IN HK DESCRIBES ADVANCES IN PRC OIL DRILLING
CAPABILITIES RREPORTED IN RECENT ISSUE OF "POPULAR CHINESE
SCIENTIFIC MAGAZINE."

9. GENERAL

JOC MARKS 30TH WORLD TRADE CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO APR 30-
MAY 1 WITH 40-PAGE SECTION. DOS DEPSEC INGERSOLL SCHEDULED
ADDRESS PARTICIPANTS AFTER DINNER WEDNESDAY. CONFERENCE
AGENDA INCLUDES PLENARY SESSION ON "BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
IN ASIA-PACIFIC COUNTRIES" THURSDAY.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

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10. INDOCHINA

SUN SAYS WHILE TIMES HARDLY CALL FOR NATIONAL SELF-CONGRATULATIONS, PROFESSIONALISM OF SVN EVACUATION'S

MANAGERS DESERVES ACKNOWLEDGMENT. WHAT NATION NOW MUST DO IS NOTHING LESS THAN WHAT HAK DESCRIBED AS SHAPING COMPLETELY NEW POLICY OUT OF SPLINTERS (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

WP SAYS AMERICANS CAN TAKE PRIDE IN NATION'S FINAL HOURS IN SVN, AS IT SOUGHT PEACEFUL NEGOTIATIONS TO AVOID BLOODSHED AND STAGED EVACUATION OF AMCITS AND PRO-US VIETS (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

NYT DEPLORES "NARROWNESS" OF AMERICANS' ESCAPE, ABSENCE STILL OF CONVINCING EXPLANATION WHY ADMIN AND AMB MARTIN ALLOWED THOUSANDS AMERICAN PERSONNEL REMAIN ON SPOT LONG AFTER THEIR FUNCTIONS SUPERFLUOUS. FEARS COMMUNISTS' FORCEFUL TAKEOVER OF SAIGON MAY BE OMINOUS FOR VIETNAMESE PEOPLE; ADVISES HANOI NOT SHUN US READINESS TO PARTICIPATE IN REBUILDING VN IN PEACE (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

NYT'S RESTON SALUTES AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS WHO CHOSE REMAIN IN SAIGON; REVIEWS IMPORTANT ROLE NEWSMEN HAVE PLAYED IN VN WAR, CITING NAMES AND LISTING THOSE MISSING AND KNOWN SLAIN. DEPLORES FACT CORRESPONDENTS NOW BEING BLAMED FOR US POLICY AND POWER DEFEAT IN INDOCHINA, EVEN THOUGH NEWSMEN WERE MORE HONEST WITH US PUBLIC THAN OFFICIALS (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

CHITRIB PLEDGES DO WHAT IT CAN TO SEND CORRESPONDENTS TO HANOI, POINTS SOUTH, FOR TRUTHFUL ACCOUNTING OF EVENTS. IF NVN WILL NOT PERMIT THIS, IMPLICATIONS "WILL BE SINISTER INDEED."

NYDN FEELS WORLD SEES US AS ENFEEBLED TITAN THAT HARDLY LIFTED FINGER IN CRUCIAL HOUR TO AID BELEAGUERED ALLY BECAUSE CONGRESS UNWILLING MEET "ITS SOLEMN OBLIGATIONS."
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BUT NOW MOST PRESSING NEED IS ASSURING SVN/CAMBODIA NEIGHBORS, JAPAN AND OTHERS THAT AMERICANS HAVE NOT LOST INNER CONFIDENCE AND SENSE OF HIGH NATIONAL PURPOSE.

PHINQ'S ARNETT, ASKING SELF WHAT WENT WRONG IN VN,
ASSERTS "WE WERE OUT OF CHARACTER AS AN AGGRESSOR,"
AND SIMPLY DID NOT HAVE STOMACH FOR BRUTALITIES OF VN
CONFLICT OVER LONG PULL.

SUN'S TREWHITT SAYS CLEAR NOW THAT US UNDERESTIMATED
NVN ENEMY, OVERESTIMATED AMERICAN PUBLIC'S WILL TO
SUPPORT "LIMITED WAR FOR OBSCURE STRATEGIC GOALS";

WHETHER ANOTHER APPROACH WOULD HAVE MADE DIFFERENCES
WILL DOUBTLESS BE POINT IN CONTINUING DEBATE (IN USIA
WIRELESS FILE).

WSJ ADVISES THAT SOVIET ROLE IN NVN CONQUEST OF SAIGON
SHOULD ALERT US TO KREMLIN'S ASSESSMENT OF DETENTE.

CITING ACCOMPANYING EXCERPTS FROM NIXON CAMBODIA
SPEECH OF FIVE YEARS AGO, SUN TERMS IT WORTH READING
AT THIS MOMENT OF NATIONAL TRAVAIL, REMINDING OF
ATTITUDES THAT LED US EVER DEEPER INTO INDOCHINA
MORASS (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

SUN'S WASHINGTON BUREAU SUGGESTS INDOCHINA EVENTS HAVE
WON FRESH ATTENTION AND RESPECT FOR "DOMINO THEORY."
SEES THAIS BEGINNING ADJUST, MARCOS VOICING CONCERN,
AND SK AND ROC OFFICIALS PROCLAIMING FAITH IN US
PROTECTION--WHILE LEAVING NO SECRET OF THEIR CONCERN
PRIVATELY (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE). CSM FINDS AMERICAN
PEOPLE IN NO MOOD FOR ANY MORE MIL INVOLVEMENTS; NEED
NOW IS COHERENT POLICY THAT ENABLES JAPAN, SK, PHILS,
THAIS, PERHAPS INDONESIA, PURSUE OWN COURSE WHILE
COUNTING ON US TO MAINTAIN STABILIZING PRESENCE IN
ASIAN WATERS (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

SCHMIDT (CSM) SEES US FACING CHALLENGES IN NON-COMMUNIST
WORLD AS ALLIES REASSESS TIES WITH US; AT SAME TIME,
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REPORTS DOS OFFICIALS SEE NEW VN EVOLVING INTO
SIGNIFICANT COMMUNIST MIL/POL FORCE, BOLSTERED BY
SEVERAL BILLION DOLS WORTH OF US MILITARY EQUIPMENT
(IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

FOR KENNETH CRAWFORD (WP), IF "DOMINO THEORY" IS NONSENSE,
THEN WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THAILAND, PHILS AND LAOS MUST
BE ILLUSORY. DOUBTS US PUBLIC'S INDIFFERENCE TO EA
EVENTS WILL LAST (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

WSTAR (4/29) SEES LAST ACT TAKING PLACE IN SVN, HOPES
PEACE MAY COME TO BRAVE PEOPLE WHO DESERVED BETTER FATE.

LAT (4/29) CONSIDERS VIET REFUGEE QUESTION, HEARS

DISCORDANT VOICES, RECOMMENDS WE WELCOME THEM AND GIVE THEM CHANCE TO START OVER AGAIN AFTER TRAGEDIES AND WRENCHING CHANGES.

11. JAPAN

IN JOC WORLD TRADE CONFERENCE SUPPLEMENT, MASAHIRO SOEJIMA (EXEC DIRECTOR JETRO, CHICAGO) DESCRIBES

DIFFERENCE IN JAPANESE, US DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES, AS AFFECTS MANAGEMENT, TRADE.

12. HONG KONG

UNGER IN HK (SPECIAL CSM) SAYS QUEEN ELIZABETH II TO ARRIVE SUNDAY BEGIN FOUR DAY VISIT, FIRST MONARCH VISIT HK. IN CONTRAST IMPRESSIVE WELCOME CEREMONIES BEING PLANNED, NOTES HKU STUDENTS PROCLAIM "DISLIKE" OF VISIT THAT REINFORCES BRITISH RULE, DECLARE HK "INTEGRAL PART OF CHINA."

13. PHILIPPINES

ANDERSON (WP) DISCLOSES TELEGRAM FROM SEN ACQUINO'S MOTHER, WHO EXPECTS SON TO DIE, AND NEGATIVE RESPONSE TO OWN PERSONAL, FRIENDLY APPEAL TO MARCOS TO FREE RIVAL ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS (USIA WIRELESS FILE).
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14. KOREA

IN WSTAR (4/27) HANCHO KIM (AMERICAN U BOARD TRUSTEES) DESCRIBES KOREA NOW KEY TO HOLDING OR CRUMBLING OF AMERICA'S WALLS; IF WE FAIL THERE, MOST DOMINOES BEYOND SEA COULD ALSO FALL. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED BUDAPEST.

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